

# Sacred Heart School

We are Gifts to Each Other

225 Cronyn St.

Wingham, On.

N0G 2W0

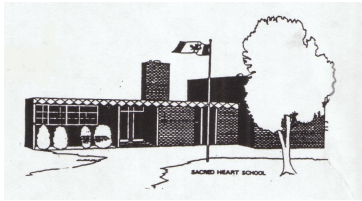
357-1090 or 357-2289

<http://sacredheart.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca/>

Greg McLean, Principal

LSAC Co-Chairs: Amy Cronin, Rina Jacobs

Trustee, North Huron : Jim McDade



Wingham, Ontario

## A Prayer in Autumn for Country Living

GOOD and generous Lord, You have once more brought the year full circle, through planting and growing and ripening to harvest time, and autumn.

We thank You for the sun and the wind, the rain and the dew, the minerals of the earth and all the plants that grow and all the beasts and birds of farm and field. We marvel at Your wonderful ways of bringing food from the earth for man's good.

Dear God, help us to use Your rich gifts as You want us to. Teach us to share them with our neighbor when in need. Make us see, in the marvelous succession of seasons, and in the growth and ripening of our crops, the merciful, generous hand of Your divine providence.

Help us to realize, too, that if we keep Your commandments and live according to the inspirations of Your grace, we shall also reap a plentiful harvest in the autumn of our lifetime: a harvest that we will be able to enjoy for ever and ever, where no rust can destroy, nor blight spoil any least part of it. Amen.

## Principal's Address

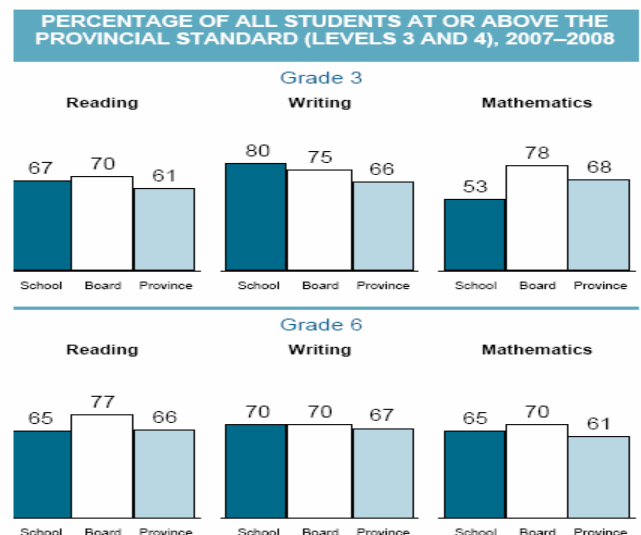
I write to you after reflecting on the first month of school and must express my gratitude and appreciation to the staff and students of Sacred Heart for making me feel a part of the school community. No matter which class I visit

I receive smiles and laughter from your children and feel warmly welcomed. For this I thank you! September is the month where we get our feet wet. October means we jump into the pool headlong. We have begun our Professional Learning Community investigating how to help students make deeper inferences when reading texts. As indicated in September's newsletter, this is our school improvement goal for the first term. We are looking to achieve 70% of students performing at a level 3 or better. AT our next PD Day

## Professional Development Day

Wednesday, October 1 is a PD Day. There is no school for students. Teachers will be involved in planning School Improvement Plan activities.

## Sacred Heart School EQAO Results:



- **Release** physical, mental and emotional **stress** in just minutes .

### 6 Questions to Ask about EQAO Data:

1. What percentage of my school's students have met the provincial standard in reading, writing and/or math?
2. What has the school's trend been in each of these subjects over the past five years?
3. If there is no clear trend in my school's results, is it because only a small number of students are writing the test each year?  
For example, if only 10 students wrote the test in a given year, a single student can be the difference between the school showing 60% and 70% of students meeting the standard.
4. How do the trends and current results of my school compare to those of my school board and the province?
5. How do my school's demographics compare to those of the school board or the province?  
Every school is unique, and you should evaluate your school's results in the context of its student population. Demographic information included in EQAO school reports allows you to understand the results and characteristics of your school in relation to those of the board and the province as a whole.
6. What is my school's improvement plan for reading/writing ?

Source: EQAO homepage

### Brain Gym

We are delighted to have Faye Murray, Occupational Therapist, present an introduction to Brain Gym. Brain Gym is a program that allows:

- **Learn new, simple, natural ways to help your child or you with improved learning and performance**
- Think and **communicate clearly**; improve your memory, focus, organization, listening and concentration
- **Coordinate** your brain, body and senses together

**Please join us in the Library on October 23 from 7-9 pm.**

## Student Vote

Sacred Heart School is participating in Student Vote 2008. This program is designed to heighten and develop civic awareness among young Canadians, in addition to trying to stem the tide of youth voter apathy. Students from grades 5-8 will get a chance to 'vote' on October 14 with their school results posted on CBC the following day as part of election coverage. Students will have a chance to hear the many sides of the political debate as we hosts an All Candidate Meeting on Friday, October 3 at 9:15 a.m. Parents are invited to come and see the candidates' presentation and student questions. And to all parents, just a reminder to exercise your right to vote on October 14!

### Sacred Heart School Handchime Choir

Sacred Heart School first offered handchimes to its students as an extra-curricular activity in the fall of 2004. Students in grades 4-8 meet for an hour after school once a week. The choir rings 2 octaves of Suzuki chimes previously owned by St. Joseph's School, Kingsbridge and 4 octaves of Malmark chimes owned by Mrs. Ross. This enables us to offer ringing opportunities to 11-18 ringers at a time.

### Pizza Overpayment

There will not be pizza for the week of the P.A. Day. Anyone that ordered and paid for pizza that week please deduct the amount from your next pizza order.

**Kindergarten Registration**

Our tentative date for Kindergarten Registration at Sacred Heart School is November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 1-3 pm

Come by and see how your child is doing with activities designed for them. Get tips on how to prepare our child for school.

Children who are 5 years of age by December 31 2009 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten and those who are 4 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten.

Please contact the school if you have a child who will be eligible for registration, even if you are not sure if he/she will be attending kindergarten and we will be able to send you correspondence pertaining to Registration.

Fundraising Chair: Kerri Dunn  
Staff Rep: Kelly Anderson  
Community Rep: Sally Campeau

Please come to our meetings and be a part of making Sacred Heart a great place to learn. We also encourage all you dads to attend meetings. Anyone needing babysitters, they will be available to you.

A very special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their generous donation of \$1000.00 toward the school sunshelter. Sacred Heart appreciates your support greatly!

### **Cyberbullying Presentation:**

Grades 7 and 8 are attending a Cyberbullying presentation at Belmore Community Center, October 21, from 1-2 pm. Former OPP officer Rob Nicholson outlines the caution that needs to be exercised by students and the internet. See [www.cyber-safety.com](http://www.cyber-safety.com) for more information.

### **Children's Liturgy**

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 28, children in JK, SK, and Grade 1 are invited to participate in a new Children's Liturgy program during the 9:00 a.m. mass. Children will be invited to come to the front of the church as a group and they will leave with a teacher and a helper to our meeting room. They will return to the church at the offertory and will be part of the offertory procession each week.

The program is called Seeds, and it used in many parishes in our area. Each week it offers a child-friendly version of the weekly gospel to the children along with songs, activities, and a take-home pamphlet.

We are very grateful to the following people who have volunteered their services: Lorraine McIlhargey, Bev Reidy, Betty Jane Higgins, Rina Jacobs, Mary Weiler, Mary Ellen Foran, Mary Skinn, and Eileen George. We also thank a large group of enthusiastic younger helpers: Sydney and Wyatt McIlhargey, Amber Claassen, Meagan and Melissa Higgins, Nicole

### **LSAC News**

Parents! Parents! Parents!

Our next meeting is Tuesday October 7 @ 7pm.

Help us to develop our school goal: We Are Gifts to Each Other.

Our fundraising campaign has kicked off this year and our goals for this year include:

- to raise money for new athletic jerseys
- books for the bookcart
- build volleyball and sunshelter

We are selling Elmira Poultry, Green's Meat Market Products and NorCard Stationary. Please have all orders back to the school by October 15. Delivery is October 30!

#### *Our Council Members:*

Chair: Amy Cronin

Co-Chair: Rina Jacobs

Treasurer: Mary Adele Davies

Secretary: Tanya Slater

Faith Development: Cindy van Nes

and Julia Jacobs, Maisy and Scott Jefferson, Amber Wilson, and Kim Hogervorst. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Kathy Waechter at 357-1558 or any of the above teachers.

Looking for an exciting school year? Your Student Cabinet is here to listen and make this year memorable! This year on our Student Cabinet we have Nicole Jacobs as Secretary, Courtney Nesbitt as Minister of Recreation, Alyssa Cronin as Minister of Finance, and Julia Jacobs as Prime Minister. We are all very excited to help the students and staff at Sacred Heart have an exciting year. We are planning to have a haunted house, candy grams, egg hunt, and a fun day for every month, so we can all share our school spirit. We can't wait to share with you a "rockin'" year.

### **Healthy School Initiative**

Our school committee is meeting on October 8 at 3:30 to assess our school needs and design our year plan for 2008-09. If you wish to join us, just call the school. We look forward to creating a healthier school.

### **Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification**

Local and provincial studies have identified a gap in the levels of achievement between Aboriginal and non Aboriginal students. For this reason, the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board is developing a voluntary Self-Identification Policy to support the success of Aboriginal students. This new focus is part of the Ontario Ministry of Education's new Aboriginal Education Strategy.

Aboriginal is a term that refers to First Nations people, both status and non-status, Inuit and Métis. Parents will soon be given the opportunity to voluntarily identify their child as being of Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) heritage. Beginning in February 2009, a survey will be sent home with Report Cards along with an informative brochure.

Participation in this survey will be completely voluntary, and all personal information

collected will be kept strictly confidential to respect the privacy of each Aboriginal student and family. If you have any further question or would like to be a part of our Aboriginal Advisory Committee, contact your school principal

### **Upcoming October Dates:**

1 PD Day  
3 All Candidates Meeting, 9:15 am  
7 LSAC Meeting, 7 pm  
8 Healthy School Meeting, 3:30 pm  
10 School Mass 11 am  
13 Thanksgiving  
15 Orders for Fundraiser Due  
15 Cross Country Meet  
23 Bus Evacuation  
23 Brain Gym Presentation Night 7-9 pm  
30 Pick Up Fundraising products

### **Students' Corner:**

The following are quotes from Grade 7 kids concerning the IPM experience:

Alyssa:

The IPM was a great educational experience. Everyone learned a lot about machinery, equipment, animals, and many other things. I think the IPM is a fun opportunity for everyone.

Madison:

I had an awesome time at the IPM because I got to spend time with my friends. We had a great time.

Katherine:

The IPM was really fun. I saw lots of things and everything was practically free! I had fun sitting on the machinery with my friends. I liked the animals too. They were really cute. I also liked the coin I found when I sifted through the sand at the artifact finding exhibit. The IPM was truly fun!

Brody:

I thought that the IPM was a lot of fun and I wished that our school could go for two days. There were lots of interesting things to look at.

I wish that next that the IPM could be in Wingham.

Tyler:

The IPM was really fun and good. I liked the old steam tractor. I rode on it and it was very slow and loud. We got to be part of a scavenger hunt. It was very, very fun.

### **Grade 5-6 comments:**

Mitch really enjoyed the army tent although it was a little stinky inside. Evan really enjoyed seeing the variety of tractors, and being able to climb on some of them, while Wyatt M. thought the lawn mower pull was awesome. Rebecca's group headed straight for the steam engines and watched and listened as they blew off steam.

Ryan, Merrick, and Victoria enjoyed seeing and touching the animals, particularly seeing the different stages in their development. Tyler C. was amazed to find out about the oldest known species of sheep, the Jacob sheep, which has 4 horns and is brown, black, and white. The Clydesdale horses were a favourite with Liam. The stands were a great place for Natalie's group to rest and watch the team penning

### **Kindergarten Report**

When the rest of the school went to the Ploughing Match, the kindergarten children toured the school and had fun making "Watermelon Pizza".

Most of the boys and girls liked the watermelon pizza and all of them enjoyed making it. Making these special pizzas gave us an opportunity to share, to take turns to make them, to practice counting the various toppings that were put on the pizzas, to retell the procedure for making them, and to write to our principal to tell him about this fun event

### **Grade 3/4s in Action:**

The grade 3/4 students have begun studying soil in the environment in Science class. Here, a student is examining soil found from our schoolyard. He is sorting things found in the

soil to discover what soil is made up of (i.e. roots, rocks, bugs, etc.).

### **Grade 2/3 Literacy Explorations:**

*If I could live next door to anyone in the world, I would live next to...*

The Jonas Brothers would be the best neighbours ever. We would go in the private jet and we would go in the limo and stick our heads out the sun roof. We will go to concerts and sing in front of the crowd.

By: Emma